

Mr. Garey said that fifteen votes at least of the twenty-one from Baltimore would be cast for the minority report. The scheme proposed by the majority was a novel scheme, entirely new to the people of Maryland. The supporters of it proposed to remedy defects which existed in the present system. The delegation from the city were, of course, anxious to do this, but they had never given their assent, as a body, to this report. It was submitted to them, but no action had been taken. The report had gone out to the people of Baltimore, and had immediately excited opposition. The great mass of the people were against it, the bar was against it and the merchants against it. It had proposed to center in the hands of but one clerk the entire appointive patronage of the subordinate clerks of the courts; this would be an immense patronage in Baltimore, and the people immediately took alarm at such an undemocratic proposition. The Governor of Maryland had, in 1851, been stripped of the vast patronage exercised prior to that time, and the people viewed with apprehension any appearance of a return to this consolidation of power and patronage. He denied also that it would be a remedy for the alleged defects in the present system. A gentleman well known in Maryland, and who had practiced for years in Washington, where this proposed system was in operation, (Mr. Robert J. Brent,) had informed him (Mr. G.) that this system would be perfectly impracticable in the city of Baltimore, and he would not undertake to practice under it. He disclaimed the charges of corruption made against the judiciary of Baltimore by his colleague, (Mr. Gill.) His colleague had spoken of Judge Stump as a reason for the adoption of the majority system. His colleague proposed to get rid of Judge Stump, but the system which was advocated by him would carry Judge Stump to every court in the city. [Laughter.]

He said his system was splendid, and it was splendid, and that was all that could be said about it—it was not practicable. One word in regard to the charges of corruption against the judiciary in Baltimore. He (Mr. G.) had never heard of it. He would take all the courts there; not one word could be breathed against the distinguished jurist who occupied the Superior bench, or the laborious judge who sat in the Court of Common Pleas.